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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/138,146	08/21/1998	MATTHEW BRETT BAILLIE	2-2	3730
27964	7590	03/08/2004	EXAMINER	
HITT GAINES P.C. P.O. BOX 832570 RICHARDSON, TX 75083			CLARK, SHEILA V	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2815	

DATE MAILED: 03/08/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Advisory Action

Application No.

09/138,146

Applicant(s)

BAILLIE ET AL.

Examiner

S. V. Clark

Art Unit

2815

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED _____ FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE. Therefore, further action by the applicant is required to avoid abandonment of this application. A proper reply to a final rejection under 37 CFR 1.113 may only be either: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114.

PERIOD FOR REPLY [check either a) or b)]

- a) ☒ The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
b) ☐ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.
ONLY CHECK THIS BOX WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

1. ☐ A Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. Appellant's Brief must be filed within the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(a), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 1.191(d)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal.
2. ☐ The proposed amendment(s) will not be entered because:
(a) ☐ they raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
(b) ☐ they raise the issue of new matter (see Note below);
(c) ☐ they are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
(d) ☐ they present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: _____

3. ☐ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.
4. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).
5. ☒ The a) ☐ affidavit, b) ☐ exhibit, or c) ☒ request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: see attached page.
6. ☐ The affidavit or exhibit will NOT be considered because it is not directed SOLELY to issues which were newly raised by the Examiner in the final rejection.
7. ☐ For purposes of Appeal, the proposed amendment(s) a) ☐ will not be entered or b) ☐ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

Claim(s) allowed: _____

Claim(s) objected to: _____

Claim(s) rejected: _____

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____

8. ☐ The drawing correction filed on _____ is a) ☐ approved or b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
9. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____.
10. ☐ Other: _____

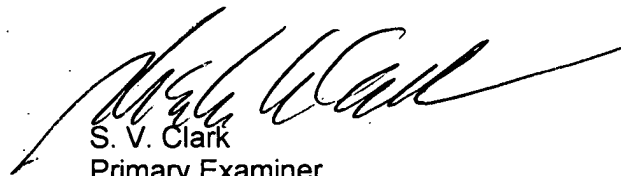
S. V. Clark
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 2815

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The prior art references relied upon in the rejections are deemed to be teach the features of the invention as they are very broadly recited substantially item for item. Applicant remarks that McShane fails to show an inner and outer well extending along a length of a periphery of a base and Budde further fails to show the same. The base recited in for example line 2 of the claim 1 of the instant invention fails to recite any specific structural character and can therefore have many differing appearances. Since the base has not been specifically characterized, its periphery recited in the next line can also be interpreted to have many different appearances. Further, a "well" is defined by Merriam Webster Dictionary as, a pit or hole sunk into the earth or a deep vertical hole. "Wells" therefore can be defined as holes contrary to applicant's arguments. Further as the applicant as not defined the structure of the base " extending along a periphery" may also have differing structural characteristics whereby along a periphery could be in and on whereby the wells of McShane are shown in the base and on the base extending along its length. The same arguments are true for the Budde reference.

In a previous interview the Examiner suggested to the applicant to more specifically define the structural features of his invention and also made suggestions relative to particular language that if incorporated may have put this application in for allowance but the applicant failed to implement said suggestions and chose instead to keep said claims very broad reading on many differing structural arrangements. Claims 1-7 and 21-28 therefore stand rejection as stated in the record.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to S. V. Clark at telephone number 703 308-4924.



S. V. Clark
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2815

March 1, 2004